

United Kingdom & U.S. sign groundbreaking nuclear technology agreement

Nexia Solutions, the organization that will form the foundation of the National Nuclear Laboratory (NNL) for the UK, has signed a groundbreaking Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the U.S.-based Idaho National Laboratory (INL). The MoU will see the UK and U.S. pool resources and expertise to benefit both countries as well as global nuclear initiatives such as the Global Nuclear Energy Partnership (GNEP).

Comments Dr. Peter Bleasdale, Managing Director of Nexia Solutions: "At a practical level, pooling resources and sharing expertise can help to address common issues such as reducing the cost of the development of new nuclear fuel cycle systems. At a more strategic level, the two organizations will be looking at how they can help make significant contributions to initiatives such as GNEP."

The INL is the U.S. Department of Energy's lead nuclear technology research, development and demonstration national laboratory, while Nexia Solutions is at the forefront of developing a NNL in the UK. The two organizations have already identified areas of collaboration and Nexia Solutions will be assisting INL in their approach to developing the next generation of recycling processes and nuclear plants. In comparison, the INL will be providing first-hand advice on the make-up and creation of a NNL as the UK goes through this process over the next few years.

Says INL Director, John Grossenbacher: "This agreement will bring together the managing contractors of two national nuclear laboratories. Combining the unique skills and capabilities of both NNLs creates a powerful partnership that can lead to significant contributions in making clean, safe, secure commercial nuclear energy available worldwide.

"Both organizations have special expertise, capabilities and facilities that can complement each other, and I look forward to a productive long-term collaboration."

Concludes Peter Bleasdale: "As well as the INL, Nexia Solutions has strong links with a number of leading NNLs across the world including the Commissariat à l'Energie Atomique (CEA) in France, the Japan Atomic Energy Agency (JAEA) and the Australian Nuclear Science and Technology Organization (ANSTO)."

- END -

Notes to Editor -- Media Contacts:

Nexia Solutions

- Nexia Solutions Limited is a wholly owned subsidiary of British Nuclear Fuels plc (BNFL).
- Nexia Solutions will be the foundation of the UK National Nuclear Laboratory
- The business specializes in providing customers with tailored solutions by applying the right level of technical innovation and intellectual support.
- Responding to UK Government requirements concerning the nuclear skills base, Nexia Solutions has the mission to protect the national nuclear technology capability.
- Nexia Solutions provides a core offering of technology services and solutions across the full nuclear fuel cycle in the UK and overseas.
- Main UK customers for Nexia Solutions services include the Nuclear Decommissioning Authority (NDA), British Nuclear Group, Westinghouse and British Energy plc

Idaho National Laboratory

- INL is a US Department of Energy multidiscipline national laboratory with mission's in energy security, national and homeland security, science, and environmental research
- INL is the DOE's lead laboratory for nuclear energy technology research, development and demonstration. As such, the Laboratory is helping lead the renaissance in nuclear energy in the United States and, through programs such as the Global Nuclear Energy Partnership, internationally
- INL's energy research technology includes nuclear, bioenergy, hydrogen production, geothermal and renewable energy sources.
- INL also has major goals in creating partnerships with academia, industry and government to revitalize nuclear science and engineering education.

Issued on behalf of Nexia Solutions by Weber Shandwick. For further information, please contact:

For Nexia Solutions:

Paul Bowers
Weber Shandwick

2 Jordan Street
Knott Mill
Manchester
M15 4PY
pbowers@webershandwick.com
Tel: 0044 (0)161 238 9411/0044 7770 886930

Kim Williams
Weber Shandwick
2 Jordan Street
Knott Mill
Manchester
M15 4PY
kcwilliams@webershandwick.com
Tel: 0044(0)161 238 9422

Nexia Solutions spokesman at INL:

Graham Jonsson
Associate Director Nexia Solutions
Idaho National Laboratory
[Send E-mail](#)
Tel: (208) 526 9396/0771 570 0327

Idaho National Laboratory Contact:

John Walsh
[Send E-mail](#)
Tel: (208) 526-8646

[News Release Archive](#)